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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, AUGUST 14, 2015

# NEWS RELEASE

## City Begins Pumping

**Durango, CO:** As of 2:00 p.m. this afternoon, the City of Durango has resumed pumping raw water from the Animas River for further treatment. The decision to resume pumping was made after the City received the results of independent water quality tests. On August 12<sup>th</sup>, the City was notified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment that the City could begin drawing water from the Animas River as needed for drinking water treatment.

During pumping, City Utilities department staff will continue to analyze water quality samples according to already established protocols to ensure the safety of the City's drinking water supply. Results of the testing will be posted on the City's website at [www.durangogov.org/utilities](http://www.durangogov.org/utilities).

Residents and businesses can now resume responsible outdoor irrigation. "A huge thank you to our community," commented Mayor Dean Brookie. "We put out the call to discontinue outdoor irrigation and the community responded by reducing their usage by more than two million gallons a day in just 48 hours. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping to keep our drinking water safe."

The City will utilize a phase approach to allow the use of City water for larger irrigation needs such as the Hillcrest Golf Course, Fort Lewis College, 9-R School District, and City parks.

For more information on water saving tips, please visit [www.durangogov.org/utilities](http://www.durangogov.org/utilities).

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